



NEWS RELEASE

Matthew D. Orwig
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LONGVIEW MAN CHARGED WITH STEALING VETERANS BENEFITS

(Tyler, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced that a 73-year-old Longview man has been arrested on charges of wrongfully withholding Veterans Administration benefits in the Eastern District of Texas. **JAMES C. COLEMAN** was arrested today after a federal grand jury returned a 2-count indictment against him on September 13, 2006.

According to the indictment, on two separate occasions in 2002, Coleman wrongfully withheld sums of money from Veterans Administration beneficiaries.

Coleman faces up to one year in prison and a fine of up to \$100,000 on each count, if convicted. It is important to note that an indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of either guilt or innocence.

The case is being investigated by the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Inspector General, Criminal Investigation Division, and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Alan R. Jackson.

In addition to the contact listed above, additional information may be obtained from the Veterans Administration Dallas Field Office, John

McDermott, Special Agent in Charge, 4040 N. Central Expressway, Suite 500, Dallas TX 75204, 214-253-3361; and the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers, Clarke Barnes, Judge Advocate, 5 Misty Hollow Rd, Geneseo IL 61254, 309-944-3674.

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